

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Applicant respectfully submits that the features of newly amended independent claim 1 are not taught or suggested in the prior art. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 should be passed onto allowance.

Independent claim 1 recites a telephone terminal equipment interface circuit, including a diode bridge for rectifying line current supplied from a subscriber line and supplying the current to a call transmission/reception circuit, a forward biasing circuit for supplying forward biased voltage to the diode bridge, and a power supply circuit supplying power to said forward biasing circuit. The forward biasing circuit is connected in series in relation to the diode bridge. Support for these features is provided at, for example, page 3, lines 15-21; page 6, line 24 through page 7, line 2; and Fig. 1 of Applicant's specification.

In contrast, U.S. Patent No. 4,406,927 to *Pommer, II* ("*Pommer*") is directed to an electronic ringer circuit having a non-linear input impedance. *Pommer* does not teach a forward biasing circuit for supplying forward biased voltage to a diode bridge, as recited in claim 1. The circuit in Fig. 3 of *Pommer* shows a tip and ring terminal, in L1 and L2. However, the bypass capacitor C and voltage dropping resistor R1 placed in series and located along L1 cannot be the recited "forward biasing circuit for supplying forward biased voltage to said diode bridge, wherein said forward biasing circuit is connected in series in relation to said diode bridge," because C and R1 are connected in series to L1 and not to the diode bridge, and C and R1 do not supply a forward biased voltage to the diode bridge. Rather, the bypass capacitor C separates the AC line voltage from the DC line voltage, and the voltage dropping resistor R1, in conjunction

with the diode bridge, acts to limit power dissipated in the tone generator. See Fig. 3 and col. 4, lines 5-25 of *Pommer*. No forward biasing voltage is supplied either from inside or from outside of the equipment to the diode bridge in *Pommer*. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action is improperly applying *Pommer*.

Furthermore, Fig. 3 of *Pommer* also does not disclose a power supply circuit supplying power to the forward biasing circuit as recited in claim 1. In Fig. 3 of *Pommer*, the diode bridge cannot conduct current when the line current supplied from the subscriber line is weak -- a voltage of 0.6V is required to cause the diodes to conduct. Thus, line current in *Pommer* would not be sufficient to operate the Call Transmission/Reception Circuit.

Pommer is for activating the Electronic Tone Ringer circuit i.e., a piezo-electric transducer. Fig. 3 shows that *Pommer* only works during an ON HOOK mode with ringing voltage sent from a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). Fig. 3 of *Pommer* also shows that there is no forward biasing circuit provided inside of the telephone as alleged. In contrast, the present invention is for activating the Call Transmission/Reception Circuit (10) and it works during an OFF HOOK mode without ringing voltage being applied with the input voltage.

The purpose of Fig. 3 of *Pommer* is for extracting the ringing voltage sent from the PSTN. The ringing voltage generated at the PSTN is superimposed with typical normal 38 Vdc voltage. In this circuit, the DC component is blocked by a capacitor and the ringer voltage is rectified by bridge diode (10) that will be used for activating the Electronic Tone Ringer circuit i.e., piezo-electric transducer.

In the present invention, Fig. 1 works during the OFF HOOK mode and the bridge diodes (20) are provided for accepting both forward and reverse DC voltages sent from the PSTN. In

case the Tip terminal is “+E” and Ring terminal is “-E”, then “+E” appears at the Cathode of D11 and “-E” appears at Anode of D14. And, in case the Tip terminal is “-E” and Ring terminal is “+E”, “+E” appears at the Cathode of D13 and “-E” appears at the Cathode of D12. Since the Cathode side of D11 and D13 is connected and the Anode side of D12 and D14, “+E” is always present at the Cathode side of D11 and D13, and “-E” always appears at Anode side of D12 and D14.

Therefore, either “+E” or “-E” will be rectified to produce a DC voltage for activating the Call transmission/Reception circuit (10) through the Forward biasing circuit (30) provided inside of the telephone. In other words, the Call Transmission/Reception circuit (10) is activated by the SUM of “E from PSTN” and the “Forward biasing circuit (30)” provided inside of the telephone.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that *Pommer* does not teach at least the features of a forward biasing circuit for supplying forward biased voltage to a diode bridge, and a power supply circuit supplying power to said forward biasing circuit, as recited in claim 1. Claims 2, 4 and 5 depend from claim 1 and recite the same combination of allowable features recited in claim 1, as well as additional features that define over the prior art. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

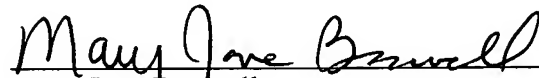
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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